

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application:

Claims 1-2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (currently amended) A system ~~of claim 1~~ for maintaining a child's feet in a predetermined therapeutic arrangement, the system comprising:

a splint comprising:

a rigid elongated member comprising a left end and a right end;

a right shoe engaging plate adjustably coupled to said elongated member;

a left shoe engaging plate adjustably coupled to said elongated member;

a right end adjustment mechanism disposed between said right shoe engaging plate and said elongated member, said right end adjustment mechanism for making angular adjustments;

a left end adjustment mechanism disposed between said left shoe engaging plate and said elongated member, said left end adjustment mechanism for making angular adjustments;

a right quick release mechanism coupled to said right shoe engaging plate;

a left quick release mechanism coupled to said left shoe engaging plate;

a right shoe detachably coupled to said right quick release mechanism;

a left shoe detachably coupled to said left quick release mechanism;

a left recess disposed inside of a left sole of the left shoe, wherein said left sole is a single piece of molded material and wherein the left recess is configured to receive and selectively latch therein said left quick release mechanism;

a right recess disposed inside of a right sole of the right shoe, wherein said right sole is a single piece of molded material and wherein said right recess is configured to receive and selectively latch therein said right quick release mechanism;
and

wherein said right shoe further comprises a foot and ankle holding removable insert which has an orifice on each side of a heel engaging section which permits viewing of a patient's foot as it is inserted into said right shoe.

Claim 4 (previously presented) A system of claim 3 wherein said removable insert has a first orifice outside end on one side of the heel engaging section and a second orifice outside end on an opposing side of the heel engaging section, such that viewing of a patient's foot is permitted through at least some area extending between the first orifice outside end and the second orifice outside end.

Claim 5 (previously presented) A system of claim 3 wherein said orifice on each side of the heel engaging section is a plurality of discrete orifices separated by material across a portion of said heel engaging section configured to surround a portion of a patient's heel.

Claims 6-8 (cancelled)

Claim 9 (currently amended) A system of claim 8 for maintaining a child's feet in a predetermined therapeutic arrangement, the system comprising:

a splint comprising:

a rigid elongated member comprising a left end and a right end;

a shoe engaging plate adjustably coupled to said elongated member at each of said left end and said right end;

a right end adjustment mechanism disposed between said shoe engaging plate and said right end of said elongated member, said right end adjustment mechanism for making angular adjustments;

a left end adjustment mechanism disposed between said shoe engaging plate and said left end of said elongated member, said left end adjustment mechanism for making angular adjustments;

a shoe coupled to each of said shoe engaging plate;

said shoe comprising a single piece removable inner foot and heel cradling insole insert, which is sized, shaped and configured to provide full heel support;

wherein said single piece inner foot and heel cradling insole insert has a relatively flat insole sole foot side and a pair of opposing insole side walls and an insole heel and ankle support section; and

wherein absence of material in said insole heel and ankle support section permits visual inspection from both sides of a patient's heel of placement of a patient's heel into said insole heel and ankle support section and contact with said insole sole foot side, while providing support for the heel and the ankle.

Claim 10 (previously presented) A system of claim 9 wherein said absence of material is a plurality of discrete insole heel right viewing holes disposed on opposing sides of said insole heel and ankle support section.

Claims 11-18 (cancelled)

Claim 19 (previously presented) A system for maintaining a child's feet in a predetermined therapeutic arrangement, the system comprising:

a splint comprising:

a rigid elongated member comprising a left end and a right end;

a shoe engaging plate adjustably coupled to said elongated member;

a right end adjustment mechanism disposed between said shoe engaging plate and said elongated member, said right end adjustment mechanism for making angular adjustments;

a shoe coupled to said shoe engaging plate;

said shoe comprising a single piece inner foot cradling insole member;

wherein said shoe engaging plate is not coupled to said shoe by a threaded elongated member;

wherein said shoe is coupled, via a quick release mechanism, to a first end of an adjustable splint assembly;

further comprising a second shoe coupled to a second end of said adjustable splint assembly;

wherein said adjustable splint assembly further comprises a shoe separation setting device comprising a first set screw and a second set screw; and

wherein said single piece inner foot cradling insole member has a plurality of protuberances which extend through holes in said sole of said shoe.

Claims 20-22 (cancelled)